

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 74, No. 41

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011



PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

These two units in the 46 Court of Ridge Road appear to have donned a leafy new hat.

Old Greenbelt's Electricity Takes a Hit from Irene

by James Giese

Hurricane Irene was mostly bluster as she passed through Greenbelt on her way north, leaving several fallen trees but mostly just leaves and small branches strewn about. While causing little damage to Greenbelt property, she did take with her the electric power for much of the city as well as for the neighboring areas of Berwyn Heights, College Park and Beltsville. Only in Greenbelt East was power maintained after the storm. It took about a day for Pepco to restore power to Greenbelt and even longer for some smaller areas in town with Belle Point behind the American Legion not having power re-

stored until late Monday or early Tuesday. The loss of power was reportedly due to damage to a substation in Beltsville.

Traffic signals were out on Greenbelt Road from Lakecrest Drive to Cherrywood Lane and beyond as well as on Kenilworth Avenue through the city. The one exception was at the major intersection of these two roads. Observed motorists drove through the unsignaled intersections using extreme caution as well they should have. Police spokesperson Kelly Lawson said no significant accidents were reported.

See **HURRICANE**, page 13

GMS "Storm" Continues Over Closing of a Meeting

by Thomas X. White

At its last regular meeting on Monday, August 15, the Greenbelt City Council agreed to schedule an executive session (closed to the public) on Monday, August 29 to meet with representatives of the Prince George's County Public Schools to discuss the city's possible acquisition of the Greenbelt Middle School (GMS). Although arrangements were made for representatives of the school system to attend the closed session, very late on the day of the meeting a decision was made by the city not to have school system representatives at the closed session and to reschedule their meeting with school system representatives at another time.

Instead, after a brief open meeting, council voted 5 to 1 to go into executive session to discuss possible acquisition of GMS, disregarding written and stated objection to the closed meeting by Greenbelt resident Molly Lester.

Response to Questions

The News Review later learned that just prior to the meeting

(but not made available during the open part of the meeting) McLaughlin received an email from Paul L. Taylor, director, Capital Programs, PGCPs responding to several of the questions raised in Mayor Judith Davis' August 4 letter to Dr. Hite.

He affirmed that portions of the GMS older than 50 years are designated as historic and any renovations of those sections must comply with historic designation requirements. He identified those sections as the gymnasium and those wings south of the gymnasium facing Edmonston Road. Regarding the city's query whether the school system could begin its planning work while the city continues its considerations related to the remainder of the building, Taylor said the school system advocates a comprehensive plan but could allow implementation in phases.

Inresponse to the city's concerns about the future location of

See **GMS**, page 7

Vacancies, Smoking Ban Are City And Stakeholder Meeting Topics

by Kathleen Gallagher

The Greenbelt City Council held its annual stakeholder meeting with the Roosevelt Center Merchants Association on Monday, August 22. The city holds regular stakeholder meetings with organizations or individuals from both inside and outside Greenbelt who have a significant role in the life of the city. All councilmembers were in attendance except for Mayor Judith Davis, who was out of town. Mayor Pro Tem Emmett Jordan conducted the meeting.

Only four of the Roosevelt Center merchants were represented: Betsy Delaney, general manager, Greenbelt Arts Center; Kim Rush Lynch, education and outreach membership coordinator for Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket;

Terri Rutledge, general manager, and Ed James, board member, New Deal Café; and Pastor Abby Daramola, RCCG Restoration Center. Barbara Simon, president of Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA) also participated. She and Ed James both wore additional hats as members of the steering committee of the new Greenbelt Community Development Corporation.

Only two major topics were offered on the agenda: the Roosevelt Center smoking ban under consideration by the city council and ideas for use of vacant spaces at the Center.

Smoking Ban

By way of introduction, Jordan explained that the council had referred the issue of a ban on

smoking in the city-owned outdoor portions of Roosevelt Center to three of its advisory groups as a result of a proposal from Councilmember Rodney Roberts that a newly broadened smoking ban in recreation areas be extended to the Center. The Park and Recreation Advisory Board, the Community Relations Advisory Board and the Youth Advisory Committee all supported banning smoking in the Center with the caveat that a designated smoking area be established for the benefit of employees and patrons of Center businesses, as well as visitors to the area.

At an August 3 worksession, the city council discussed the

See **COUNCIL**, page 6

City's Capital Projects Worksession Tells a Mix of Good and Bad News

by Thomas X. White

At a Greenbelt City Council worksession on Capital Projects on August 17, City Manager Michael McLaughlin provided updated budget information the city has received since the Fiscal Year 2012 budget was adopted in June. Some bad news arrived in the form of updated real estate assessment values from the Maryland Department of Assessments & Taxation (MDAT).

Some good news came in the form of an updated analysis of city revenues and expenditures showing higher than expected revenues and lower than expected expenditures in closing out Fiscal Year 2011. McLaughlin reported that if the new numbers hold up, approximately \$700,000 could be added to the city's fund balance for FY12. However, MDAT's estimated 2.3 percent reduction in the city's July 1, 2011, estimated assessable real property base puts a dark cloud over the just-adopted FY12 annual budget.

All seven members of council attended, as well as Assistant City Manager David Moran. Although the worksession had been labeled Capital Projects, the updated financial information and lowered assessment totals from MDAT altered the usual dynamic for council's post-budget Capital Projects worksession.

All members of council were clearly taken aback by MDAT's revelation, for the second year in a row, that real property assessment values for Greenbelt had experienced a decrease. So instead of diving into the Capital Projects topic and considering available resources and assigning

relative priorities for accomplishing various projects, the worksession agenda started off discussing the MDAT update.

MDAT Estimates

In constructing the city's proposed FY12 budget in spring 2011, McLaughlin used MDAT data estimating the total assessable base for Greenbelt real property at \$2,130,320,872. The August 17, MDAT update estimates the actual assessable base at \$2,082,000,000, a 2.3 percent reduction in the earlier estimate.

If verified, expected property tax revenues for the city

would likely be reduced during FY12. McLaughlin estimates property tax revenue would be approximately \$400,000 less than what the Greenbelt FY12 budget projects. City staff will contact MDAT officials to verify the latest figures.

FY11 Financials

In a memo to council dated August 10 (a week before the city learned of the reduced assessment information from MDAT), McLaughlin provided preliminary totals for city

See **WORKSESSION**, page 6

What Goes On

Friday, September 2 to Monday September 5 – Greenbelt Labor Day Festival

Friday, September 2

7:30 p.m., Outstanding Citizen Reception, Municipal Building

Saturday, September 3

2 to 5 p.m., Happy 50th Birthday, Youth Center, Youth Center Gym

Monday, September 5 – City and GHI Offices Closed for the Labor Day Holiday

10 a.m., Labor Day Parade

Tuesday, September 6

7 p.m., Arts Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center

Wednesday, September 7

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center, Room 200. Agenda – Discussion of Roundabout at Cherrywood Lane and Metro Access Drive

Thursday, September 8

7:30 p.m., Greenbelt Homes Board Meeting, GHI Administration Building

Saturday, September 10

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Pooch Plunge 2011, Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center, 101 Centerway

Letters to the Editor

Thanks to Roberts

I would like to thank Councilmember Rodney Roberts for demonstrating his commitment to open and transparent government through both his words and his actions.

Molly Lester

Editor's Note: Councilmember Rodney Roberts opposed council moving into executive session to consider acquisition of Greenbelt Middle School.

Lessons Learned From Stormy Irene

I am sure that no one likes a power outage. I certainly don't.

I am an engineer of many disciplines.

The main reason that power outages occur in old Greenbelt is a transformer blowing. I have heard the noise over and over again during thunder and snow storms and this year during Irene. The electrical grid is designed with a backup. When a loss of power occurs there is an automatic search for active electrical power. The power comes back on and then, sometimes, a transformer blows.

The problem is that every single house has most likely an air conditioner/heater and refrigerator on. These devices have motors in them. When a motor starts there is a spike in current. This spike can be huge when you consider all the houses. Other devices may have been left on as well – stoves/ovens, baseboard heat, etc., are high current drain devices. Turn them all off after it is determined that the power will be out for a little while.

Additionally, due to the surge in power, everything that is electronic should be plugged into a surge protector. Power surges can destroy electronic equipment.

As a professional engineer, it

is my opinion that the city should hire a person who is knowledgeable about power outages and trees to conduct a visual survey of Greenbelt's power lines and see where the possibility of a tree or branch falling on a power line is most likely, take pictures and have the proper jurisdictional authority remove the trees/tree branches.

Randy Crenwelge

Supports Anti-Smoking Plaintiff Schuman

In reference to [Mary] Clarke's story on the smoking lawsuit, I was present for plaintiff [David] Schuman's presentation, in addition to the first day of defendant GHI's presentation, so I was present for the first four out of the five days of the trial to date.

[Dorrie] Ipolito, the smoker's other neighbor, testified that she did not renovate her house so the sealing in her unit was not broken, yet she still had smoke infiltration. In addition, GHI's General Manager [Gretchen Overdurff] agreed that Schuman's renovations did not affect the sealing in the smoker's unit.

Finally, [James L.] Repace, a second hand smoke expert, testified that studies have shown that it is not possible to completely prevent the infiltration of second hand smoke in multi-unit dwellings. There are many small holes that can't be seen, he said.

Ipolito also testified that she installed ceiling fans and bought a HEPA filter. She said they are not completely effective. According to the 2006 Surgeon General's report, which the judge [Albert Northrop] accepted as evidence, there is no risk-free level of second hand smoke. In addition, Repace pointed out that HEPA filters only remove

particles; they do not remove the toxic and carcinogenic gases of the second hand smoke.

In cross-examining Ipolito, GHI's lawyer asked about GHI hiring an industrial hygienist to test the air in her and Schuman's units after GHI had had the units sealed. Ipolito, Schuman and the smokers were notified as to when the test was going to take place. The test took place during the day when people were at work. And the test measured carbon monoxide, which Repace said is a poor marker of secondhand smoke.

In summary, the evidence shows that secondhand smoke cannot be completely prevented from moving from the smoker's unit into their neighbors' units. HEPA filters remove particles, not gases; and ceiling fans don't remove anything. In addition, partially preventing the secondhand smoke is not enough to eliminate the adverse health effects associated with secondhand smoke.

GHI expected Schuman to make some compromise in contradiction to the evidence. GHI told Schuman there was nothing more they could, or would, do for him regarding his complaint. They did not grant him the formal hearing as outlined in the GHI Member Complaints Procedure. GHI did not explain why they were prematurely ending the Complaints Procedure.

I attended the trial and am writing this letter because Dave Schuman is my friend. In addition, since I may find myself living in a multi-unit dwelling again e.g. apartment building, this case is personally relevant.

Alex Barnes

Grin Belt



"Premium acorns - earthquake and hurricane survivors - for sale!!"

Smoking Lawsuit Re-scheduled

The trial in the smoking lawsuit of Schuman v. Greenbelt Homes, Inc., continued during last week's earthquake, has been rescheduled to Monday, September 12 at 9 a.m. in the Circuit Court in Upper Marlboro.

We've Moved!

Electronically, that is. Please use our new address:
newsreview@verizon.net

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Altoria Bell Ross, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg; and Mary Willis Clarke

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$40/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Corrections

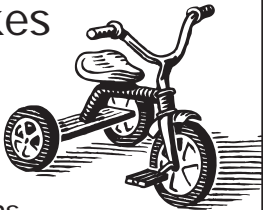
In the article announcing that St. George's Episcopal Church will host a PFLAG group, on page 5 last week, the computer line wrap broke the email address, adding a hyphen that prevented emails from reaching the church. The correct addresses are www.stgeo.org (website) and stgeoflag@gmail.com (email). The announcement is reprinted on page 4.

In last week's Our Neighbors column we incorrectly identified Clement Lau's status with Greenbelt-CERT. Lau has been a full member since January 2006 and recently completed CERT refresher training.

Lions Club Bikes & Trikes Labor Day Parade

Meet at Mother & Child Statue
9:30AM, Monday, Sept. 5

Prizes awarded for best decorations



Luncheon-On-The-Lawn Labor Day Sept. 5 after the Parade

Adults: \$7, Children: \$5
Barbeque, cole slaw, baked beans, dessert

Greenbelt Community Church
Crescent Rd. & Hillside

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF SEPT 1

The Debt (R)

Thursday, Sept.1

*5, 7:30

Friday

*5, 7:30, 9:45

Saturday

Classic Film Series

Showing Saturday at Noon:
Marlene Dietrich in
THE BLUE ANGEL
(all tickets \$5.00)

*2:30, *5, 7:30, 9:45

Sunday – Monday

*2:30, *5, 7:30

Tuesday – Thursday

*5:15, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.50

Tuesday is Bargain Day.
All Seats Only \$6.50.

Now accepting Visa, Discover and MasterCard for ticket sales only.
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pandgtheatres.com

Community Events

At the Library Storytimes

On Wednesdays and Thursdays a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props.

Wednesday, September 7, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages three to five years, room capacity: 20 total.

Thursday, September 8, 10:30 a.m., Toddler Time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, room capacity: 24 total.

Pick up a free ticket for the Storytime events at the information desk.

Arts Advisory Board To Meet on Sept. 6

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, September 6 at 7 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

For more information call Nicole DeWald, staff liaison, at 240-542-2057.

Pooch Plunge 2011

The City of Greenbelt's annual swim/pooch party will be held on Saturday, September 10 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center, rain or shine. Participation is limited to 75 dogs and 75 handlers. A nominal fee will be charged per dog, which must be accompanied by a handler. There is no charge for dog handlers, who must be 18 years of age or older. All spectators are welcome.

Handlers must pick up and properly dispose of feces, handlers must render first-aid if their dog is injured, notify other handlers if their dog inflicts injury and must come dressed to swim if they plan to enter the pool with dog. All participating dogs must be licensed and vaccinated.

Not permitted: glass containers, dog treats or training treats, aggressive dogs, dogs in heat, dogs under four months of age, any animals other than dogs or any injured or sick dogs. The Kiddie Pool will be available for small dogs. Pool safety and health rules will be enforced.

Pre-register at the Animal Control booth at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival or at the event.

SIDS Run-Walk to Be Held Here on Sept. 10

The 8th Greenbelt Lake Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) walk and run will be held on Saturday, September 10. Held rain or shine, the event raises funds for SIDS research, family support, free cribs for county at-risk, infants and teen parenting programs. It includes a 1.25-mile walk, a 5k run and other entertainment and activities. Full details are in the ad on page 7.

Run

On site registration begins at 7 a.m. at St. Hugh's parking lot (135 Crescent Road) for the run. A fun run for kids under age 9 is at 7:45 a.m. with the run itself beginning at 8 a.m. A free breakfast will be served at the start site. Pre-registration for the run (a timed race) is at <http://www.GetMeRegistered.com> through midnight Wednesday, September 7. The run will be timed by SIDS partner the Prince George's Running Club.

Walk

On site registration for the walk starts at 8 a.m. at the entrance to Greenbelt Lake Buddy Attick Park (555 Crescent Road). The walk can be taken anytime between 9 a.m. and noon. There will be free breakfast, a 9 a.m. line dancing performance by the Iverson Mall Walkers, a guitar sing-along and for kids, a magic show, clown and face painting. The walk path is stroller-friendly; pets on leashes are welcome at the walk but cannot be accommodated at the run. Walk participant pre-registration is at www.SidsSurvivalGuide.org through Friday, September 9.

Additional donations are needed, tax deductible and can be made online or by sending checks payable to CJ Foundation for SIDS, P.O. Box 2426, Hyattsville, MD 20784.

For more information call 301-322-2620.

Computer Club Will Meet on September 8

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its September meeting on Thursday, September 8 at 7 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. Everyone is welcome.



Contract employees from Hartselle, Ala., return to their convoy lining Laurel Hill Rd. Monday afternoon after doing repair work there while tree removal work was being done in a separate operation around the corner at 20 Hillside Rd.

GHI Notes

Thursday, September 1, 6:30 p.m., Board of Directors/Finance Joint Meeting

8 p.m. Members Input Session on 2012 Budget Preparations

Friday, September 2, Office Closed (Maintenance emergency service available only. Call 301-474-6011.)

Monday, September 5, Office Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 6, 7:15 p.m. – Pre Purchase Orientation

Thursday, September 8, 7:30 p.m. – Board of Directors Meeting

Note: Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

More Community Events
on pages 4 and 7

Golden Age Club

Yard Sale

Bake Sale

Sat., Sept. 10 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Roosevelt Center,
Greenbelt

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday 10am – 4pm
Third Saturday every month,
10am–1pm

Good, clean clothes for women,
men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

Academy Stadium Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall
Center Court
301-220-1155

ALL SHOWS BEFORE 5 p.m.
Adults/Seniors: \$6.50
Children: \$6.00

ALL SHOWS BEFORE NOON
ON SATURDAY \$5.00

ALL SHOWS AFTER 5 p.m.

Adults: \$8.50

Students/Military: \$7.50

Children: \$6.00

Seniors: \$6.50

R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

Week of SEPT 2

FRI. – SUN.

Apollo 18, PG-13

11:20, 1:30, 3:45, 6:05, 8:15, 10:30

Rise of the Apes, PG-13

11:40, 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:20

Shark Night in 3D, PG-13 (!)

No fees at this location

11:15, 1:25, 3:40, 6, 8:10, 10:30

Spy Kids 4, PG (!)

11:15, 1:25, 3:40, 6, 8:10, 10:30

Don't Be Afraid of the Dark, R (!)

11:40, 2:20, 4:55, 7:45, 10:20

Colombiana, PG-13 (!)

11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:15

The Help, PG-13 (!)

11:55, 3:10, 6:30, 9:30

Final Destination, R

10:15

Smurfs, PG

11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40

MON. – THU.

Apollo 18, PG-13

11:45, 2, 4:10, 6:15, 8:40

Rise of the Apes, PG-13

11:55, 2:55, 5:55, 8:20

Shark Night in 3D, PG-13

No fees at this location

11:40, 1:50, 4, 6:15, 8:40

Spy Kids 4, PG

11:40, 1:50, 4, 6:15, 8:30

Don't Be Afraid of the Dark, R (!)

11:55, 2:55, 5:55, 8:25

Colombiana, PG-13 (!)

11:45, 2:45, 5:45, 8:20

The Help, PG-13

12:45, 4:15, 7:30

Final Destination, R

8:20

Smurfs, PG

11:55, 2:45, 5:45

NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GDC & GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Thursday, September 8, 2011

GHI ADMINISTRATION BLDG., 7:30 PM



GDC Key Agenda Items:

- 2011 Garage Door Replacement Contract, 1st Reading
- 2nd Quarter Financial Statements

GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Exception Request for Proposed Addition, 9A Southway
- Exception Request for Privacy Reasons, 42L Ridge
- Administrative Resources Required to Process Permits & Exceptions
- Sublease Extension Request, 18K Ridge Road
- Buildings Committee/Addition Maintenance Task Force Recommendation for Survey of Additions
- Buildings Committee Recommendations: Solar Photo Voltaic Electric System for Administration Building
- Web Team Final Report
- CAC Disaster Plan
- Contribution Requests
- 401K Plan – Provider change to AUL
- GHI List Serv for Announcements

Regular Board meetings are open to Members
For more information, visit our website - www.ghi.coop

FINAL WEEKEND AT THE GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

A Midsummer Night's Dream FINAL WEEKEND!
September 2 & 3 at 8:00pm
Guest production by The Rude Mechanicals

Staged Reading: Twelve Angry Men
Thurs, Sept 1 at 7:00pm &
Sun, Sept 4 at 1:00pm
Guest production by Dreadnought Theatre Co.

\$15 General
\$12 Students/Seniors

For information & reservations, call **301-441-8770**
email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org
or **BOOK TICKETS ONLINE** at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Coming Soon:
September 6 & 7 at 7-9pm - AUDITIONS: Alice in Wonderland, directed by Betsy Delaney
September 23 - October 15, 2011 - Same Time Next Year, directed by Stephen Yednock Jr.

123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

Obituaries

Sara Winkler

Sara Winkler, 79, a 50 year resident of Greenbelt, died on Tuesday, August 23, 2011, at her home in the 23 Court of Ridge Road.



Born in Buffalo, N.Y., she grew up in College Park, Md. She attended Greenbelt Junior High School and the University of Maryland.

Her first job was at the bakery in the Greenbelt Co-op.

Afterward she went to nursing school at Prince George's Hospital in Cheverly. She worked there for 12 years in extended nursing care.

After becoming a registered nurse she worked at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, working there until she retired. She bought a four-wheel drive so she was able to reach the hospital in bad weather.

Mrs. Winkler enjoyed reading, bird watching and gardening.

Her survivors include four children: Carolyn Accatino and her husband Steve, California; Nils Winkler and his wife Julie, Washington state; Erik Winkler of the home address; and Kirsten Heine and her husband William, Baltimore; granddaughter Kimmie Vanderbilt, San Diego, Calif.; and sister Sheila Mellinger, Pa.

The time and place for services will be announced at a later date. Interment will be private.

St. George's Offers PFLAG Support

The Metro DC group Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is now offering support groups in the county on the first Monday of every month at St. George's Episcopal Church, 7010 Glenn Dale Road. The free groups are for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning individuals (LGBTQ), their families and friends. Separate groups are offered for young people (age 13 to 18) and for adults (18 and up).

The first meeting will be on Labor Day, Monday, September 5 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

All are welcome. Support groups are led by trained facilitators. Confidentiality is maintained. The goal of PFLAG is to help families heal and stay together. The support group is a chance to learn more about what it means to be LGBTQ in today's society, to ask questions and share concerns and to learn about other available resources for individuals and families.

Visit St. George's website at www.stgeo.org for details or email stgeoflag@gmail.com.

For more information about PFLAG or its other support groups in the metropolitan area go to www.pflagdc.org.

ASG Holds Star Party Saturday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) will have an information table at the Labor Day Festival and invites festivalgoers to stop by to check it out. All are invited to join in the ASG star party Saturday evening, September 3, at the City of Greenbelt Observatory, located at Northway Fields.

In addition to the telescope in the observatory, several members will have set up personal telescopes and binoculars for the enjoyment of all. Observing will begin as soon as it is dark enough, probably around 8:30 p.m.

Objects to be observed include the moon and possibly a glimpse of Saturn, which is setting quite early. In addition, several nice star clusters and nebulae may be seen. ASG members will be available to answer questions and provide advice about getting started in this hobby.

The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy. Attendees are asked to park in the ball field lot unless bringing a telescope.



Our sympathy to the family and friends of 50-year Ridge Road resident Sara (Sally) Winkler, who died in her home August 23, 2011.

Congratulations to Heather Fairfax nee Durance, the daughter of Paul Durance, who grew up on Ridge Road, finished high school at ERHS in 1998 and has now graduated from Fayetteville (NC) Tech CC with a degree in nursing. She passed the North Carolina Boards and began her nursing career at Cape Fear Hospital August 29. Heather is married to Rob Fairfax, currently attending Army OCS at Ft. Benning, Ga., and they have two children, Robert and Audrey.

A "card shower" is planned for the 90th birthday of former Greenbelter Jerry Shafer on September 12. Jerry coached the Athletics in the Greenbelt Little League for over 20 years. His family asks that the cards be sent to him at 1041 North 81st Street, Lincoln, NE 68505.

To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at newsreview@greenbelt.com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

— Kathleen McFarland

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor
Worship Service 10:00am

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
September 4, 10 a.m.
Poetry Service by Worship Associate Shantida
Some published and amateur poets among us will share their musings with us.

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltucc.org
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor
"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd

Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

St. George's Episcopal Church
Join us around a table where all are welcome!

Services
• Sundays
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)
10 a.m. main service
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
• Wednesdays
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

Morales – Wise

Vanessa Morales and Thomas Butler Wise of Greenbelt are to be married in Lakewood, N.J., on October 15, 2011.
The bride is the daughter of Francisca and Carlos Morales. She is a graduate of Penn State University and has an MBA from Loyola University. She currently works for Lockheed Martin as a financial analyst.
The groom is the son of Barbara and Jonathan Wise. He graduated from the University of Maryland and has a master's degree of mechanical engineering from Johns Hopkins University. He works as a design engineer for Rolls-Royce Naval Marine Inc. in Annapolis.

Education is of three kinds: material, human and spiritual. Divine education is that of the Kingdom of God: it consists in acquiring divine perfections, and this is true education. (Abdu'l-Baha)

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.bahai.us

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111
www.myholycross.org email myholycross@verizon.net

Summer Schedule
One Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a traditional Bible-believing, Christ-centered congregation! Join Us!
Join us on Facebook at Holy Cross Lutheran Greenbelt

Greenbelt Baptist Church
101 Greenhill Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770 – (301) 474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome!
Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School
Sunday 11:00 am Worship Service
Wednesday 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
ALL are Welcome!
"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. James Lawton - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
berwynpresbyterian.net

Worship : Sundays at 10:00 am -- Child Care Available
Sunday School : Will resume on Sept 11 @ 9:30 am
Office Hours : M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"

Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM
Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.
For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist



City Information

Mad Hot Ballroom Dance Party!

Saturday, September 10 at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

A community social dance for all levels of dancing skill, ages twelve and up. Bring your spouse, partner, and friends or just come by yourself.



7:00pm - 8:00pm:
Dance lesson in the featured dance of the month. (This month's lesson: Waltz.)
8:00pm - 9:30pm:
Dance the night away to the best social, ballroom, Latin and club music.

DJ and Mad Hot Ballroom dance instructor Frank Solomon will teach line dances during breaks.

Attire: Dress up, formal, or nice casual. No shorts, jeans, T-shirts or sneakers. Please wear ballroom dance shoes to help preserve the floor.
Cost: \$10 per person. Pay at the door.

For more information, call Frank Solomon at 301-934-0729.

Future party dates: Oct. 18 (single swing lesson)
Nov. 12 (cha-cha lesson) Dec. 10 (samba lesson)

CITY OF GREENBELT ANIMAL CONTROL AND AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTER PRESENT POOCH PLUNGE 2011 A Splash Party for You and Your Dog!

Saturday, September 10th from 10am-3pm
Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center, 101 Centerway
\$5.00 per dog. One dog per handler.



Info: 301-474-6124

Pre-register at the Animal Shelter Booth at the Labor Day Festival.

Greenbelt residents receive priority registration. You may also register at the event. Participation is limited.

GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER

550-A Crescent Road (behind Police Station)
Congratulations to Bonnie, Delila and some kittens on their adoptions! Much happiness to them with their new families!
COME OUT AND VISIT THESE ADORABLE PETS AND OTHERS:
Bo is an 8 month-old pup that was found running around all



by himself. He is a very happy and playful boy. Peggy is a young girl who was found wandering all by herself behind a fire station. She is completely adorable and loves to play and be scratched.

The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm,
Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment.
INFO: 301.474.6124. Donations welcome any time!
We especially need kitty litter!
Follow us on Facebook!



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed Monday, September 5th, in observance of Labor Day.
The Greenbelt Connection will not be operating.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE Week of September 5th

Monday Route – Collected Tuesday
Tuesday Route – Collected Wednesday
Wednesday Route – Collected Thursday
Thursday Route – Collected Friday

There will be no appliance or yard waste collections on Friday, September 9th.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION VOTER REGISTRATION

To vote in the City Council election on November 8, 2011, you must be a qualified Greenbelt voter by October 10.

For information about registering to vote in Prince George's County, contact the County Board of Elections at 301-430-8020. Voter Registration Forms, along with Change of Address or Name Forms, are available at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, and the Greenbelt Library, 11 Crescent Road. Forms are also available on the city website, www.greenbeltmd.gov.

All forms must be received by the County Board of Elections in Upper Marlboro no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 10.

For additional information, contact Cindy Murray, City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.

ELECTION CLERKS NEEDED

The City of Greenbelt Board of Elections is seeking several residents who would be willing to serve as election officials on November 8, 2011, from 6 a.m. until about 9 p.m. Clerks must also attend a training session on November 7 from 7:00 p.m. until about 9 p.m.

This is a rewarding experience for anyone who is interested in the political process and would like to play an active role in the local election. There is a stipend of \$135, plus a training fee of \$25.

There may also be a need for additional clerks to assist in the counting of absentee ballots. This job would entail working for two or three hours in the late afternoon/early evening of November 8. No preliminary training is necessary. The pay for absentee ballot clerks is \$35.

To apply, please visit the City offices to submit an application, or call or e-mail Cindy Murray, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000 or cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to request a form. Forms are also available on the city website, www.greenbeltmd.gov.

HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY YOUTH CENTER! Saturday, September 3, 2:00pm-5:00pm



Bring the family for ROLLER SKATING at the Greenbelt Youth Center Gym. This is what the Gym was originally built for!

If roller skating is not for you, than stop by and see a photo montage of the happenings over the past 50 years at the Greenbelt Youth Center. There will also be an unveiling of a "Wall of Fame" at 3:00pm in the Youth Center game room to honor the people that contributed to the folklore of the Greenbelt Youth Center.

Visit and "Like" the City of Greenbelt on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt
Also, visit Greenbelt CityLink at www.greenbeltmd.gov for city information.



ENJOY THE LABOR DAY FESTIVAL!
<http://greenbeltlaborday.com>

Meetings September 5-9

Tuesday, September 6, at 7pm, ARTS ADVISORY BOARD at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. For additional information, please call Nicole DeWald, staff liaison, at 240-542-2057.

Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30pm, ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD, at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road Room 200. On the Agenda: Discussion of Roundabout at Cherrywood Lane and Metro Access Drive

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

VACANCIES ON
BOARDS &
COMMITTEES
Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. Vacancies:
Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee
For information call 301-474-8000.

FALL GED COURSE

Registration for the Fall Session GED course will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011, from 10:30am – 12:30pm at the Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Students will be placed in either GED I or GED II. GED I is held from 10:30 – 12:30. GED II is held from 1:00 – 3:00pm. The first actual class will be held on Thursday, September 15. Course is free to Greenbelt residents. There is a fee for non-residents.

All students must purchase textbook (\$35) and calculator (\$10).

For more information on this program call 301-345-6660.

City of Greenbelt
Department of Recreation
FIT "N" FUN CARDIO
Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am-11:15am
Sept. 12-Dec. 16
Ages 16+
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Instructor:
Judy Cocchiaro

For registration information visit www.greenbeltmd.gov.
Download the Fall Recreation Brochure

COUNCIL continued from page 1

advisory group reports. Although it appeared likely that councilmembers would eventually concur in supporting a ban, they agreed to seek the merchants’ opinions and, in particular, their suggestions for one or more designated smoking areas. Also of interest was the question of what the merchants would do with regard to the outdoor border along their external walls, over which the city has no control.

Rutledge said the New Deal strongly supports a ban and already has signs designating its outside eating area as non-smoking. Beyond the area of the city’s tables and benches, however, she said the New Deal is concerned that smokers might congregate in the back toward the loading docks, which would impact keeping the restaurant’s back room doors open.

Lynch reported that the Co-op’s opinion on the smoking ban is “no opinion.”

While expressing personal support for a ban, Delaney said the reality is that smoking is still a strong part of the culture of performers. She noted that about one-third of the cast members and stage workers at a recent performance at the Greenbelt Arts Center were smokers and that since smoking indoors is prohibited, they used the bench on the walkway outside the door. She said this was fairly typical.

Of the places suggested as smoking areas by the advisory groups, two are on private property – spaces used by the Step Club and the grassy area beyond Maria’s Beauty Salon. A member of the board of the Step Club stated strongly that the area they use is private property and not available for city consideration. He suggested using part of the grassy island across Centerway from the stores. The third area, where the benches are located at the opening of the underpass opposite the Center, was deemed undesirable because of its proximity to people entering the Center via the underpass.

Jordan said he has noticed that quite a few people exit the New Deal Café to smoke. He said it does not bother him but he understands it could bother others. He asked to keep in mind the need for tolerance and also that

enforcement could provide its own difficulties.

No clear single line of thinking emerged. Some participants thought it was unnecessary to provide any designated smoking area at all. Roberts suggested that the city should go further and ban smoking from all the park areas, just as it has banned alcohol. Barbara Simon supported that view, adding that there should be a unified decision to make all city parks, fields and public recreations areas smoke-free.

In response to a query from Jordan on whether a referendum should be considered, Councilmember Leta Mach said council had referred the matter to staff and to the advisory groups who represent city residents. She added that she thought a designated smoking area might be unnecessary but that going to a ban on all fields and park areas should wait until after a first step was taken with Roosevelt Center.

Vacant Spaces

By far the vacant space of greatest interest to the council was brought up while introductions were still underway at the beginning of the meeting. No sooner had Kim Rush Lynch introduced herself than councilmembers peppered her with questions about the status of the large space under the Co-op, vacated five years ago when the new postal facility opened on Hanover Parkway. Had there been nibbles? What use would the Co-op like to see there? Lynch said she was not well-versed in that side of Co-op business but would get information back to the city.

It later evolved that the Greenbelt Arts Center needs to expand and would like that space but Delaney said the price is out of reach for them. Pastor Daramola mentioned that the church’s first choice had been to rent that space as well. Councilmember Ed Putens encouraged more discussion on finding a way to get the space and the people who need it together. Councilmember Konrad Herling reminded everyone not to forget there are fairly serious considerations in getting the space into code compliance.

Resident Doug Love came to the table to give an account of his efforts to start up a hardware

business in the space recently vacated by the Variety Store. His sales of shares on the model of greenbelt.com have been going slowly but a big impediment is that the asking rate for Roosevelt Center space is some notches above what it typically is in areas occupied by hardware stores. That idea led to a broader discussion of the disincentives to filling the space in the main part of the center because of the condition of the building and reluctance of the landlord, George Christakos, to make repairs.

“Other”

Usually a sizeable part of the merchants meeting is devoted to discussion of city services or maintenance issues – the good, the bad and the ugly. Although such topics were apparently to be relegated to “Other” on this agenda, Rutledge succeeded in bringing them up on behalf of the New Deal Café. She described the police response as being “very good” and much appreciated. On the ugly side, however, she said that recycling is “still an eyesore” on the back of the building, noting that although there is pick up on Sunday morning, the New Deal Café and Generous Joe’s fill it up on Friday night.

Jordan pointed out that the new bus routing has resulted in a larger function of the Center as a hub for transfers. He said the city is developing a plan for a more attractive and user-friendly way for pedestrians to get to and from the Center from the bus stop area.

Simon requested an update on the scheduling of a worksession on the renovation of the Old Greenbelt Theatre building. Assistant City Manager David Moran said the date had not yet been set but the goal is still to hold the meeting in September or October.

Pastor Daramola announced that the Restoration Center had, with city permission, installed low-energy lighting in the theater, at a donated cost of \$1,000. She said the space had been quite dark, which was appropriate for movies but the new lighting expands the use of the space at other times. She was thanked with great enthusiasm by councilmembers and merchants alike.

Summer Animation Session Celebrates 75th Anniversary



PHOTO BY BARBARA SIMON

Chef Lou and kids in the GATE summer workshop session that ended August 19. The 75th Anniversary Animation Special they’ve been working on will include Chef Lou. When youth workshop participants went to Chef Lou’s to meet him, he shook the hand of each and gave them all cookies. Shown left to right are: Peter Enns, Tiahna Nugent, (assistant animators), Melissa Fisher, Brianna Butler-Douglas (students) Chef Lou, Eileen O’Brien, Gabe York (students), Tom Baker (art instructor) and John Commins (student).

WORKSESSION cont. from page 1

revenues and expenditures for FY11. That analysis showed revenues exceeded projections by nearly \$480,000 and that expenditures are estimated to end the year (June 30, 2011) about \$230,000 lower than estimated. The memo notes these estimates are preliminary and still subject to change.

Since the figures for final payment for income taxes usually are not received by the city until late August, this is one area where there may be possible changes, according to McLaughlin’s memo. He attributes the higher than expected revenues to an unanticipated increase in Corporate Personal Property (\$230,000), lower tax abatements (-\$42,183) and higher license and permit fees and miscellaneous revenues (\$180,000).

On the expenditure side, the savings are largely due to reduced overtime expenses in the police department and lower than budgeted personnel benefits costs. Based on this analysis, McLaughlin advised council that approximately \$700,000 could be added to the city’s fund.

Theater Renovation

Taking advantage of the increase in the city’s fund balance as outlined in the memo, McLaughlin suggested council consider transferring \$200,000 of those additional funds to the 2001 Bond Fund for use in the theater project and, in addition, direct that the \$232,100 added to the Debt Service Fund in the FY12 budget also be added to the theater renovation 2001 Bond Fund. If these funds could be made available for the theater project, he reasoned, they could serve as requisite matching funds for the state grant funds made available for the project.

These actions would enable the city to undertake a substantial amount of work on the theater renovation, he said.

Without making a formal decision, if council felt comfortable with this suggestion, staff could work on a phasing schedule and cost figures for the theater renovation cost, he said. When the data is finalized, council could revisit the issue at a worksession this fall.

Mayor Judith Davis responded to McLaughlin’s request by polling council on whether they favored or did not favor the suggested transfer of funds to the theater project. Councilmember Edward Putens said he would not favor such a transfer because council, during its discussion of the FY11 budget and at its adoption, had noted what funds were going to be used and where those funds (for which projects) would be used. He noted the uncertain fiscal climate the city is facing.

The reaction of the other councilmembers was generally more positive, though tentative. Councilmember Emmett Jordan was the most definite; “We need to get moving on the theater renovations,” he said.

Councilmember Leta Mach was persuaded that McLaughlin’s suggestion may present a good opportunity to obtain a full state match for the project. Councilmember Silke Pope agreed she was open to considering the proposal but would like more information on how phasing of the project would be accomplished.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts agreed that the city needed to do something with the lingering project but would like more specific information on the transfers of funds suggested by McLaughlin. Councilmember Konrad Herling and Davis said they were open to the proposal.

Council agreed to consider a more comprehensive staff proposal for phased action on the theater renovation either in late September or early October.

City Notes

Facilities/Building Maintenance crews did thorough inspections of all city facilities after the earthquake and started street light inspections for a report to Pepco.

Horticulture/Parks/Playgrounds crew repaired the fence at the Walker Cemetery in Indian Springs.

The Department of Public Works welcomed Jim Sterling, the new assistant director, to its ranks.

Freddie Mac Foundation’s “Heart Gallery” exhibit has been installed in the north/south hallway of the Community Center’s first floor. This display features photos and information about area children in need of adoption (mentors also welcome) and will continue through the first week of September.

Patuxent Celebrates Hunting/Fishing Day

The Patuxent Research Refuge will celebrate National Hunting and Fishing Day on Sunday, September 11 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the North Tract of the Refuge. The public is invited to participate in guided hikes, practice tying flies for fishing, watch working dogs retrieve and view archery demonstrations. Information will be offered about hunter safety, accessible hunting and fishing, and hunting and fishing opportunities in the area. Exhibitors/participants will include the Meade Natural Heritage Association, Ducks Unlimited and the Wild Turkey Federation.

The North Tract of Patuxent Research Refuge is located off Route 198 between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Route 32, east of Laurel. For accommodation of special needs requests or additional information call 301-776-3090.

Here Comes the Sun To the Owens Center

The planetarium program “Sunwatchers of the Southwest” will be presented at Howard B. Owens Science Center on Friday, September 9 at 7:30 p.m. Every culture appreciates and celebrates the sun in some way. In this program, planetarium staff will lead participants through sunwatching in the southwest as evidenced by ancient petroglyphs, pictographs and solar observatories. A tour of the night sky (other “suns”) follows the presentation.

The Owens Science Center is located at 9601 Greenbelt Road in Lanham. An admission fee is reduced for students, teachers and seniors. Children age three and under are free. For more information visit www1.pgcps.org/howardbowens or call 301-918-8750 during school hours.



PHOTO BY ANNE GARDNER

2010 midway art carts. The carts return this year with new projects.

Artful Afternoon Included In Labor Day Weekend

September’s Artful Afternoon program will be held during the Labor Day Festival on Sunday, September 4 from 1 to 4 p.m. Focusing on Arts On and Around the Midway, weather permitting, from 1 to 3 p.m. roving art carts on the carnival midway will allow festivalgoers to make free crafts inspired by the new Community Center Gallery artists-in residence exhibit, “What Remains.” In case of rain, the crafts program will move into the Community Center.

In the Community Center, the “What Remains: New Work by the Community Center Artists in Residence” will be on display in the gallery. Stop at the gallery desk to enter to win tickets for local theater. On the third floor, studios of the nine artists-in-residence will be open from 1 to 4 p.m., with fine arts and crafts available for purchase directly from the artists.

Art, Photo Shows

Throughout the afternoon, the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival community art and photo shows will be open at the Community Center. Admission is free. These shows are a feast for the eyes and a celebration of the creative talents of friends and neighbors, the artists.

For information about how to participate in the art and photo shows, visit www.greenbelt-laborday.com. Festival organizers are also planning a craft show to be held at Roosevelt Center from noon to 7 p.m.

Artful Afternoons are an award-winning monthly series produced by the Greenbelt Recreation Department. For additional information or to volunteer, call 240-542-2057. Arts programs of the City of Greenbelt are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating vibrant cultural communities where the arts thrive.

GMS cont. from page 1

the bus lot, Taylor said relocating the lot would be difficult. Regarding the city query Taylor indicated there are currently no reuse plans for the existing facility.

Finally, in response to the city’s question about what would happen if the facility were not transferred to the city, he said response if no use was identified by the time the building is vacated (September 2012) it would remain vacant until a decision is made. He added that the school system has been anticipating that an appropriate use would be identified through the efforts of the Greenbelt Middle School Task Force.

The decision to meet with county school system representatives on the topic followed council’s receipt of an interim report from its appointed Greenbelt Middle School Task Force in mid-July which recommended the city consider acquiring portions of the historic GMS (see GNR July 21, 2011).

Further, an August 4 letter from Mayor Judith Davis was sent to School Superintendent Dr. William R. Hite posing a series of questions regarding various options available to the county for renovation, reuse and/or disposition of the buildings once the new GMS is open. The letter included an invitation for Dr. Hite, School Board Member Peggy Higgins and appropriate school system staff, “to meet in a work session with the City Council at a future date.” (See GNR issues of July 28 and August 11).

Council Meeting

The council meeting began at 8 p.m. with one citizen and two news reporters present. Mayor Davis was away, with the meeting conducted by Mayor Pro Tem Emmett Jordan. City Manager Michael McLaughlin, Assistant

City Manager David Moran, Assistant Recreation Director Joseph McNeal and City Solicitor Robert Manzi also attended.

Jordan recognized Councilmember Konrad Herling to move that council go into executive session to discuss the possible acquisition of GMS.

Under the Maryland Open Meetings Act, the operative provision in the law that council was relying upon to justify the closed session was item (3) of 14 listed reasons for a public body to go into executive session, namely “To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.”

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Leta Mach. Jordan then recognized Molly Lester who had communicated by letter to the City Council her objection to the closing of the meeting. Lester reiterated to council the reasons for her objections, namely, “that council’s decision to close the meeting, in order to formulate their position with respect to the GMS, thwarts key tenets of [Maryland’s] Open Meeting Act.” She noted further that the school system has a very limited role in any county disposition of surplus school property and that the school system is prohibited from entering into negotiations with the City of Greenbelt regarding the acquisition of GMS. For those reasons Lester requested council to reconsider its decision to close the meeting, considering the letter as her “official objection” to a closed meeting.

Position Opposed

Jordan noted his disagreement with Lester’s position. Council’s purpose (for the closed meeting), he said, is to discuss matters related to the potential acquisition

of property.” He wanted an opportunity to discuss (the topic) among council.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts said he saw no reason for council to go into a closed session. He stressed that the GMS site is not private property and that there is a very public process for acquiring school-surplus property. In his view, the biggest question regarding potential acquisition of GMS is financing.

Councilmember Silke Pope responded that she had questions for school system representatives and that their not being here is a hindrance. “We do not have anything to hide,” she noted.

Councilmember Edward Putens said that “strategy is the reason for (having) the discussion in closed session.” He was supported in that regard by City Solicitor Robert Manzi.

Herling also supported that rationale for the closed session, indicating the need (for council) to develop a strategy as to what it may do in regard to the county’s disposition of GMS.

The feeling expressed by councilmembers was that council cannot act in executive session. Any decision (to go forward or not) must be made in open session.

Following the discussion council voted 5 to 1 with Roberts opposed to enter into executive session. The two reporters and Lester were then asked to leave.

Subsequently, Lester related to this reporter that Manzi had informed her that in his interpretation of the law the city was not obligated to include her written objection in its report to the Open Meeting Compliance Board. She said she would be submitting her letter of objection to the Compliance Board.

Trains Meet Planes At Aviation Museum

The National Capital Trackers, an “O” Gauge Model Railroad Club with members from northern Virginia and suburban Maryland, are bringing to the College Park Aviation Museum miniature trains, villages, tunnels and depots that spark imagination and bring history to life. From Saturday, September 3 through Monday, September 5 all ages can enjoy constantly moving displays of model railroads daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There is no charge for the train display over regular museum admission. Children under age two are admitted free. For information call 301-864-6029, TTY 301-699-2544.

Genealogy Society Looks North to Pa.

The Prince George’s County Genealogical Society will meet Wednesday, September 7 at 7 p.m. in the New Carrollton Municipal Building at 6016 Princess Garden Parkway. After a brief business meeting, John Humphrey will present “Researching Pennsylvania Ancestors.”

All are welcome to attend this free presentation. For additional information see www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdpgcs or call 301-262-2063. The society meets on the first Wednesday of the month from September through June, except for January.

Join Scouting Night

We are looking for young men from First through Fifth Grades and their parents to come join in the fun!!!

Thursday

September 15th, 6:30PM

Greenbelt Community Church

1 Hillside Road

cubinfo@pack202.org

www.pack202.org

RUN/WALK FOR SIDS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

GREENBELT LAKE

BUDDY ATTICK PARK, GREENBELT, MARYLAND

RAIN OR SHINE!

1.25 MILE WALK

Registration: Pre-Register at SidsSurvivalGuide.org through Friday, Sept. 9 or day of event—see schedule below.

Start Site: Buddy Attick Park entrance: 555 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Fee: Free registration. Tax-deductible donations are greatly needed and appreciated. Please see “to donate” below.

Schedule:

- 8:00 a.m. Registration begins on site
- 9:00 a.m. - 12 p.m. Noon Start Walkers may start anytime in this time period.
- 9:00 a.m. Iverson Mall Walkers Line Dancing Performance
- 9:30 a.m. FYI: Most Walkers start around 9:30.

To Donate: Donate online or send checks payable to CJ Foundation for SIDS to P.O. Box 2426, Hyattsville, MD 20784. To meet our goal, we'd appreciate \$25 from each walker or \$35 per family. Fees and donations are tax-deductible.

5 K RUN

Registration: Pre-Register at a savings online at GetMeRegistered.com for ages 10-99 through September 7, Wednesday, Midnight close; or day of event. See schedule below.

Start Site: St. Hugh's Church Parking Lot: 135 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Fees: \$20 in advance, \$25 day of event. Free: ages 9 & under

Schedule:

- 7:00 a.m. Registration begins on site
- 7:45 a.m. Start: Kids “Fun Run”, ages 9 & under
- 8:00 a.m. Start: ages 10-99
- 9:00 a.m. Iverson Mall Walkers Line Dancing Performance

Timing: Professionally timed by the Prince George’s Running Club.

To Donate: Extra donations are greatly needed & appreciated. An additional donation of \$10 per runner will help us meet our goal. Donate online or send checks payable to CJ Foundation for SIDS to P.O. Box 2426, Hyattsville, MD 20784. Fees & donations are tax-deductible.

EVENT EXTRAS

- **9:00 a.m. Line Dancing performance by the**
- **Free Breakfast!**
- **Guitar Sing-Along with Jim, David, & Jack Stemmler**
- **Actress & Spokesperson Gabrielle Christian Plans to Attend.**
- **Magic Making, Face-Painting Clown Will Entertain Your Kids.**
- **Pets on Leashes Are Welcome at the Walk!** However, we are sorry that we will not be able to accommodate pets at the Run.

WHY WE WALK

Our mission is to raise funds for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) research and support for families, and to help fund free **Cribs for Kids for Infants at Risk & Teen Parenting** programs in Prince George’s County.

CONTACT US:

TO DONATE, PRE-REGISTER, VOLUNTEER*

Online: www.SidsSurvivalGuide.org

Phone: Joani Horchler* toll-free at 1-877-WeLoveYou

E-mail: sidses@aol.com.

*Community/Student Service Hours Available.

(*Joani & Gabe lost their only son, Christian, to SIDS in 1991.)

PAID ADVERTISEMENT BY GREENBELT HOMES, INC.



NEWS IN REVIEW

September 1, 2011

The Great Escape

by David Morse

It was morning, and light was streaming through the kitchen window. You might think this was a good thing. But I was sickened to realize that it meant our landlord had broken his promise not to cut down the tall evergreen shrubs in front of that window. Our lovely green view, replaced by a prison yard.

That incident was the final straw that made us determined to leave rental housing. But house hunting was agonizing. The prices! They were enough to make you weep.

And then we discovered GHI. When we took our first stroll along the tree-lined inner walkways, we saw playgrounds and parks, neatly kept townhouses, flower-filled private gardens. And we kept encountering friendly people who were more than willing to tell us why they loved living here.

And the prices! No weeping! We couldn't believe it. An affordable, friendly, safe, lovely community. We felt like refugees landing at Ellis Island. Then we found out the advantages of cooperative living. (See below.) After living

here for almost 20 years, our initial impressions have been confirmed many times over.

Perhaps you, too, have experienced that sense of helplessness engendered by a Landlord from Hell. But you don't have to go through that to understand why living in GHI makes sense. Here are some facts you should consider:

Location, location, location. GHI is convenient to shopping, schools, restaurants, entertainment, recreational facilities, and woodland trails, as well as public transportation, major highways—and much, much more.

Family-friendly. GHI courts are connected by inner walkways away from streets and linking to many small parks with playground equipment.

Peace (of mind). The monthly co-op fee relieves you of individual responsibility for replacement and repair of major



components—far more services than condominiums offer. Management and staff are competent, courteous, and responsive.

Freedom. You can alter or add on to your co-op unit (permits required and restrictions apply).

Democracy. Annual elections give you a voice and a choice.

Tax benefits. Interest on your home loan and real estate taxes are tax-deductible.

Involved community. If you choose, you can volunteer for one of GHI's committees and task forces that help make this a great place to live.

More details, including houses currently on the market, are available at www.ghi.coop. (Click on "Join Our Community.")

It's Your Money

A powerful way for GHI members to help shape the direction and nature of our cooperative's programs is through the creation of GHI's annual budget. The first opportunity for major member input is scheduled for Thursday evening, September 1, at the 8:00 p.m. joint meeting of the Board of Directors and GHI Finance Committee.

Drawing on the member ideas and months of information gathering by GHI staff, the draft budget will be discussed by the Board of Directors and Finance Committee on Wednesday, September 21. The Board's first reading of the budget is scheduled for October 20 and the second reading for November 3. The Board can make changes to the budget at any of its meetings, but if it increases the total budget at the time of the second reading, it must have a new first reading, and finally pass the budget at its next meeting.

Members, including those unable to participate in the September 1 meeting are welcome at the Finance Committee and Board meetings to give suggestions on what to add to or cut from the budget and what sources of income GHI should add or remove from the budget. Member input is welcome at all meetings on the budget as well as at all Board meetings.

Earthquake: A few instances of superficial drywall cracks have been reported but no significant earthquake-related damage has been observed in any GHI units. If members observe any cracks or shifting within their units, they should notify the GHI maintenance department to initiate an inspection at 301-474-4161 x 127.



October Is Co-op Month

Following the City Council's proclamation of Co-op Month at its September 26 meeting, GHI and the six other co-ops in Greenbelt will celebrate Co-op Month in October. You can talk to representatives of the local co-ops while they are staffing the Community Booth at the Farmers Market on Sunday, October 2. To find out more, read the Greenbelt News Review throughout October.

Pre-Purchase Orientations

Attend a pre-purchase orientation to find out more about co-operative living. There is no obligation to buy. Orientations will be held on the following dates in the Board Room at the GHI Administrative Building on Hamilton Place.

Tuesday, September 6, 7:15 p.m. **Saturday, September 17, 11:00 a.m.**
Monday, October 3, 7:15 p.m. **Saturday, October 22, 11:00 a.m.**

Copper Thefts in GHI

During the past two weeks, copper downspouts and gutters have been stolen from several brick units on Ridge Road. The incidents were reported to the Greenbelt police. GHI staff estimates the replacement cost to be about \$2,000.

If you observe anyone who is not a GHI employee or approved contractor removing downspouts and gutters from a GHI unit during working hours, *call the maintenance department immediately at 301-474-6011*. If you observe *anyone* removing gutters during non-working hours, *report the incident immediately to the Greenbelt police at 301-474-5454*.

GHI maintenance employees wear green uniforms with the GHI logo. Most management staff wear different colors, but also have a GHI logo. All GHI employees carry photo-identification. Working hours for maintenance employees are 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. every other Friday.

During the next few weeks, contractors hired by GHI will be replacing roofs and gutters at 1 A-D Northway, 1 E-H Northway, 2 A-E Northway, and 4 E-F Ridge. Members at those locations have been notified.

GHI Members Picnic

GHI's Annual Picnic will be on Sunday, October 9, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Hamilton Place. The Cozy Restaurant of Thurmont will again provide a full menu of picnic favorites, and the Greenbelt Community Band will provide rousing music.

Let Monica Johnson know by September 29 how many from your household will be coming. You can email Monica at memaa@ghi.coop or call her at 301-474-4161 ext. 140. Let Monica know, too, if you'll be able to come about 10:30 that morning to help set up tables and chairs. For more information, go to www.ghi.coop, or see the Fall issue of the Communicator.

GHI Town Hall Meeting on Real Estate Taxes

Thursday, September 15, 7 p.m.
Community Center Gymnasium

Next year, GHI members will pay real estate taxes based upon their individual home assessments. Attorney William Monks will conduct a seminar for members on the new system and the real estate tax appeal process. If you want to learn more, be sure to attend.

Tree-Mendous Program: Orders Due Sept. 23

Through GHI's cooperation with the Maryland Forest Service in the Tree-Mendous program, GHI members can purchase native trees and shrubs at reasonable prices. Details are available at www.ghi.coop, in the Fall issue of the GHI Communicator, or at the GHI office (301-474-4161). All orders must be placed by September 23.

What benefits do you see in living in GHI? E-mail Sheri Swaim at mgntoffice@greenbelthomes.net, or drop off your comments at the GHI Administration Building. Your thoughts might end up in GHI News in Review.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

SEPTEMBER

Thu	1	6:30 p.m.	Joint Board of Directors & Finance Committee Meeting (Budget)
	1	8:00 p.m.	Member Input Session (Budget)
Fri	2	- -	OFFICES CLOSED
Mon	5	- -	OFFICES CLOSED (Labor Day)
Tue	6	7:15 p.m.	Pre-Purchase Orientation
Thu	8	7:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
Wed	14	7:30 p.m.	Architectural Review Committee
Thu	15	7:00 p.m.	Real Estate Tax Meeting at the Greenbelt Community Center Gym
Fri	16	- -	OFFICES CLOSED
Sat	17	11:00 a.m.	Pre-Purchase Orientation
Sun	18	11:00 a.m.	Woodlands Committee
Tue	20	7:30 p.m.	Companion Animal Committee
Wed	21	7:00 p.m.	Woodlands Committee
	21	7:00 p.m.	Joint Board of Directors & Finance Committee Meeting (Budget)
Thu	22	7:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
Mon	26	7:00 p.m.	Communicator Task Force
Wed	28	7:00 p.m.	Buildings Committee
Fri	30	- -	OFFICES CLOSED

OCTOBER

Mon	3	7:15 p.m.	Pre-Purchase Orientation
Thu	6	7:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
Sun	9	1-3:30 p.m.	Member Picnic
Mon	10	- -	OFFICES CLOSED (Columbus Day)
Wed	12	7:30 p.m.	Architectural Review Committee
Fri	14	- -	OFFICES CLOSED

(Dates are subject to change)

Maintenance service is available—for real emergencies only—outside of normal maintenance hours or when offices are closed. Call 301-474-6011.



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Greenbelt



Supermarket Pharmacy

Farm Fresh Produce					
Large Sweet Seedless Red Grapes		99¢ lb.	Fresh Express Garden Salad 12 oz.		99¢ lb.
Fresh Crisp Cucumbers each		50¢	Sweet Ripe Eastern Peaches		99¢ lb.
Fresh Crisp Bartlett Pears		\$ 1 ²⁹ lb.	Fresh Brussel Sprouts		\$ 2 ⁹⁹ lb.
			Sweet Ripe Jumbo Cantaloupes each		\$ 2 ⁹⁹ lb.
			Fresh Crunchy Apples Gala/Ginger Gold/McIntosh		99¢ lb.
			Fresh Crisp Green Cabbage		49¢ lb.

Fresh Quality Meats			
Fresh Shurfine Homestyle Roasting Chickens	69¢ lb.	Fresh Value Pack Boneless New York Strip Steaks	\$6 ⁹⁹ lb.
		Fresh Value Pack Chicken Thighs or Drumsticks	99¢ lb.
Fresh Lean Beef Boneless Chuck Roast	\$3 ⁴⁹ lb.	Fresh 93% Super Lean Ground Beef	\$3 ⁴⁹
		Mama Lucia Homestyle Meatballs Assorted 11-12 oz.	\$1 ⁹⁹ lb.
			BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

Dairy		Deli		Frozen	
La Yogurt Assorted Yogurts 6 oz.		39¢	Tropicana Premium Orange Juice 64 oz.		\$ 2 ⁹⁹
Sargento Shredded Cheese Assorted 5-8 oz.		\$ 2 ⁵⁰	Pillsbury Rolled Pie Crusts 14.1 oz.		\$ 2 ⁷⁹
Dr. Kare Body Wrap Supports Assorted each		\$ 1 ⁹⁹	Fresh Catch Bay Scallops		\$ 4 ⁴⁹ lb.
Denta Brite Deluxe Toothbrush each		2/ ⁹⁹ ¢	Seabest Haddock Fillets		\$ 4 ⁹⁹
			CO-OP Supermarket Will Be OPEN LABOR DAY Monday, September 5 10am til 6pm <small>Pharmacy Will Be CLOSED</small>		
			Deli Gourmet Canadian Maple or Honey Ham		\$ 5 ²⁹ lb.
			Deli Gourmet Oven Brownd Turkey Breast		\$ 5 ⁹⁹ lb.
			Clearfield American Cheese		\$ 5 ⁹⁹ lb.
			Stouffer's Lean Cuisine Classic Entrees Assorted 5-11.75 oz.		\$ 2 ⁰⁰
			Boston Market Homestyle Meals Assorted 14-16 oz.		\$ 2 ⁵⁰
			Green's Premium Ice Cream Assorted 1.5 oz.		\$ 3 ⁰⁰
			Ellio's Large Pizza Assorted 14-20 oz.		\$ 2 ⁹⁹
			Cascadian Farm French Vanilla Almond Granola 13 oz.		\$ 3 ⁹⁹
			Fresh Store Baked Egg Knot Rolls 6 pk.		\$ 1 ⁰⁰
			Looza Natural Fruit Nectars Assorted 33.8 oz.		\$ 2 ⁹⁹
			Fresh 8 inch Store Baked Pumpkin Pie		\$ 2 ⁹⁹
			Natural & Gourmet		Bakery

Bumble Bee Solid White Tuna 5 oz.		88¢	Ragu Pasta Sauces Assorted 16-23 oz.		\$ 1 ²⁵
Kellogg's Corn Flakes 12 oz.		\$ 1 ⁹⁹	Wishbone Family Size Salad Dressings Assorted 16 oz.		3/\$ 5 ⁰⁰
			Era 2X Liquid Laundry Detergent 50 oz.		\$ 3 ⁸⁸
			San Giorgio Spaghetti & Macaroni Assorted 12-16 oz.		\$ 1 ⁰⁰
			Del Monte Canned Vegetables Select Varieties 11-15 oz.		80¢
			Thomas Original English Muffins 6 pk.		\$ 9 ⁶⁹ <small>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</small>
			Skippy Peanut Butter Assorted 15-17 oz.		\$ 1 ⁶⁹
			Motts Apple Juice 64 oz.		\$ 2 ⁵⁰
			Grocery Bargains		

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Woodchuck Ciders 6 pk.-12 oz.	\$ 7 ⁹⁹	Smoking Loon Wines 750 ML.	Pacific Rim Wines 750 ML.	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
		Sam Adams Boston Lager 12 pk.-12 oz. btl.		

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11						

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PHARMACY

Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400

Closed Sunday

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Armed Robberies

August 14, 1:23 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a man entered a store, displayed a silver knife and demanded money from the cashier. The cashier complied and the man fled the scene on foot.

August 20, 1:48 a.m., 8000 block Mandan Road, two young men approached a man who was sitting on a bench. One young man was partially concealing a shotgun along his side, which he pointed at the man and demanded his money. The man complied; the suspects drove away in a silver-colored vehicle. One suspect was described as a black male, 19 to 22, 5'9" to 5'10", approximately 200 lbs., medium complexion, dreadlocks, muscular build, wearing all black clothing. The other suspect was described as a black male, 19 to 22, 6'2" to 6'3", approximately 180 lbs., light to medium complexion, wearing all black clothing.

Trespass

August 20, 10:25 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a nonresident man was arrested and charged for trespassing on private property. He was released on criminal citation pending trial.

Vandalism

August 22, 12:52 p.m., 200 block Lakeside Drive, an unknown object broke a glass sliding patio door.

Burglary

August 17, 4 p.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road, jewelry was reported taken.

August 21, 12:25 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a laptop was reported taken.

August 23, 2 p.m., 7500 block Greenway Center Drive, two generators were reported taken.

August 25, 9:20 a.m., 6200 block Springhill Drive, an attempt was made to force open a bedroom window. A resident youth, 17, was arrested and charged on a juvenile petition for attempted burglary. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the Department of Juvenile Services. A second youth was seen fleeing the area on foot.

August 25, 4:18 p.m., 6900 block of Hanover Parkway, an attempt was made to force open a window; no loss was reported.

August 25, 4:28 p.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway, a Play-Station 3 and laptop were reported taken.

Vehicle Crimes

Four vehicles were recovered, two by Greenbelt police and one each by Prince George's and the Metropolitan police. No arrests were made in any of the recoveries.

A purse was stolen from a vehicle in the 7400 block Greenbelt Road. Four tires were punctured on a vehicle in the 6200 block Springhill Court.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.
Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

There is an urgent need GIVE BLOOD, GIVE LIFE

Monday, September 5, 6 a.m. to noon,
Prince George's Chapter House, 6206 Belcrest Road,
Hyattsville

Wednesday, September 7, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.,
Prince George's Chapter House, 6206 Belcrest Road,
Hyattsville

Friday, September 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Prince George's Hospital Center, 3001 Hospital Drive,
Cheverly

Friday, September 30, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Washington Redskins, Fed Ex Field,
Landover.

Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE

GHI Board of Directors Meeting Draws Varied Member Interest

by Sue Krofchik

They came and came, milling around in the hallway until the door opened. Then more came. Even Mayor Judith Davis and Councilmember Emmett Jordan were among the 25 or so people in attendance at the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) board meeting on August 18.

Although one woman came because she had nothing else to do and another's motivation was "two football games on TV," almost every agenda item was responsible for someone's arrival.

The hoarding policy, status of the pilot project and three yard-line issues were on-going topics on the agenda. Three requests were for various extensions and one was for an exception. Subleasing and updating of the reinstatement letter following termination were also included.

The hoarding policy, dated August 18, 2011, was adopted after consideration of member comments.

The board decided a policy was needed to determine what constitutes a hoarding situation and how staff should respond.

GHI does not actively inspect homes for hoarding behaviors. When hoarding is reported or discovered, staff will conduct an inspection to determine if any immediate health and safety dangers are present.

The home will be described as being on one of three levels. Level I would describe immediate health and safety dangers and the member would be asked to relocate at their expense. Other steps describe resources to assist the member and action of GHI and city staff. Levels II and III present no immediate health or safety issues but require action to address violations.

Pilot Project

The board approved changes to the content and rescheduling of phase two of the pilot project, both recommended by the Buildings Committee. When prospective contractors considered the scope of work included in phase two, they were hesitant to bid because of the tight time frame and complications that replacement of waste pipes in frame homes might have on building envelope work, such as roofs, siding, windows and doors.

The board decided that the only phase two work to be done as scheduled this fall is insulating crawlspaces and placing cladding at ground level along outside walls. Because no general contractor is needed to accomplish this project, bids will be solicited only from insulation contractors.

Waste pipe replacement and associated landscaping are being removed from phase two. Pipe replacement will be done later (probably beginning in 2015) and will be handled like other past routine, replacement projects. Landscaping will be done by either a separate subcontractor or, if time permits, by GHI staff.

The remainder of phase two work is being postponed until spring 2012. This includes improvements to the building envelope such as new doors and windows and bathroom exhaust fans.

Workshops will be held this fall to teach members low-cost

ways to keep warm and have lower winter heating bills.

Yard Lines

The charter of the Yard Line Committee has been amended and now authorizes review of previously approved yard plats, as necessary, and making recommendations to the board for modifications. "This allows for correction of yard lines approved by oversight or error," commented Director Diana McFadden.

This change to the charter was recommended because of encroachment by GHI vehicles through the yard of 9-G Ridge in order to reach the common area playground. (See separate article page 11.)

Several members from 2 and 4 Courts Southway were present as the board approved yard plats for homes in their two courts. As of August 1, yard plats for 757 of 1,600 homes have been certified as correct.

Extensions

A request for an additional year to complete renovations to the former boiler room adjacent to 48-D Ridge was granted. An extension was needed because of changes in plans for windows and doors, the need for further review by the Architectural Review Committee and the need to coordinate with the contractor's schedule.

Two members requested extensions to permit continued renting of two GHI homes after current rental leases expire. Both are serving overseas in the Foreign Service.

This request of one member was granted through August 2013 or until such time as the current renter vacates.

The other member, currently in Mozambique, South Africa, will be assigned to Sao Paulo, Brazil in January 2013. This request was tabled because the current authorization to rent extends through 2012.

Director McFadden explained that foreign service officers are typically given state-side assignments between tours of duty on foreign shores but this had not happened in either of these cases.

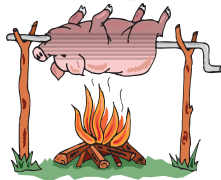
Miscellaneous

The formation of an announcement-only list serv was discussed. A formal proposal will be presented at the September 8 board meeting.

The board reviewed a letter of reinstatement (M-3) to be sent to members who pay past-due monthly co-op fees after being sent termination notices for non-payment of these charges. This completes the GHI delinquency policy M-series of letters notifying members of non-receipt of monthly co-op fees, intent to file in court and termination notices.

See you at the
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September 2-5, 2011

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GHI Committee Recommends Yard Cut for Access Route

by Sue Krofchik

This is a story about two issues, yard plots and an addition request, that like a bad itch, keeps returning to the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Board of Directors, most recently at their August 18 meeting.

Yard Lines

The board referred the yard plat issue to the Yard Line Committee because GHI trucks were driving through a common area and continuing through the yard at 9-G Ridge Road to reach the area playground. The yard plats for 9 Court were certified as correct in 2007.

The board approved the recommendation of the committee to change the plat for 9-G to accommodate the need for GHI trucks to drive through a member's yard by removing six feet from the service side yard. Now, when the GHI leaf truck and trailer drive over this six foot swath to reach the playground, they will be driving over common area property, not part of the yard belonging to the members at 9-G.

GHI was given permission by the city months ago for smaller trucks to access the playground by using the underpass by the library on Crescent Road.

According to the July 17, 2011, letter to the Yard Line Committee from the members at 9-G, GHI staff re-drew the yard plat and removed six feet from their yard because "this access route through our yard must be officially established so that a leaf-vacuum truck and trailer can drive to the playground common area Or more precisely, to prevent current or future residents from blocking access by planting a hedge or building a fence."

Although the members at 9-G appreciated the offer of GHI to add six feet to the side yard to compensate for the lost six feet on the service side, they declined the offer. If in the future another access route to the playground becomes available, they "expect the GHI Board of Directors to restore the land to our yard that is removed by the 2011 re-certification."

General Manager Gretchen Overdurff said GHI will repair the ruts made by trucks in the now new common area and install (removable) split rail fencing to prevent vehicles from parking in the common area next to what had been the yard of 9-G. Currently the area is used to store slate roof shingles to replace roofs on the 12 homes in this court.

Addition Exceptions

A member request for approval to build a wrap-around addition to their end unit at 9-A Southway was referred to the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) because they had not yet evaluated this latest, fifth proposal.

The members propose a one-story addition extending to the side of the unit and a two-story addition on the garden side. The couple are trying to meet requirements of GHI, the needs of their expanding family and other anticipated needs as they or future members age. Plans include a first floor bedroom, bathroom and extra space. They want to keep the layout of the home as originally built but

merely add to it.

The process for approval began in June. They had hoped to have the addition completed by this November to coincide with the birth of their child. This deadline, however, now cannot be met.

Several exceptions to GHI's policies are requested. Two, for a window and a shed roof, were recommended for approval by the ARC in previous proposals; however, previous recommendations do not carry forward to new plans.

The preferred shed style roof is a point of contention because other roofs in the row are gable style. Director David Morse, who submitted a typed page of comments favorable to the plans, disagreed. He noted that combinations of gable and shed roofs in other rows "failed to muster outrage."

Complications

The first two complications are the location of the home, an end unit with side yard along

Southway, and the distance the addition would extend into the side yard. The side yard addition was not recommended for approval in previous proposals because its size would project 12 feet into the 17 foot side yard.

Current rules permit extending no more than half the distance from the original building into the side yard, which in this case is eight feet six inches. In the newest proposal the members have asked for a compromise, permitting a 10 foot extension into the side yard.

The ARC recommended 5-0-1 to oppose the side addition, citing "no compelling reason" to support it and that it "would have a negative effect on the experience of entering old Greenbelt along Southway."

Another complication is the location of the neighboring addition next door at the rear of 9-B. When that addition was built in 1956, rules required that additions be placed one foot from the side yard line. When win-

dows on the 9-B addition needed replacement, the matter came before the board on June 23.

It was known that the 9-A member was planning an addition, also in the rear, but rules now require additions to be placed on the yard line. This change would result in a one-foot space between additions, which would not be allowed unless the member at 9-B specified in writing that she approved.

In order to avoid this situation, the members at 9-A changed their plans for a rear addition. They moved it away from the shared side yard line toward their other side yard line, extending the plans to wrap the proposed rear addition into a one-story side addition.

Other issues concern a tree line near what would be the foundation for the rear addition and the style of foundation – whether continuous or on piers.

The board also referred those issues to the Yard Line Committee.

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Alight Dance and Nursery School Are Awarded Community Grants

by Sandra A. Lange

This summer the Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) presented its ninth semi-annual grant awards to two local non-profits, the Alight Dance Company and the Greenbelt Nursery School (GNS). Alight Dance Company, directed by Greenbelt resident Angella Foster, received \$865 to help underwrite their production of “Hometown Heroes: 75 Years of Extraordinary Greenbelt Women” and the Greenbelt Nursery School received \$2,350 to support a music education program for three- and four-year-olds.

The “Hometown Heroes” project will focus on the history of Greenbelt women who have shaped the community we live in today. “Our work is story or concept-based,” commented Foster, “and begins with a research process which then informs and inspires the movements we create.”

First Phase

The first phase will bring together Alight’s teaching artists with six to eight fifth graders from Springhill Lake Elementary School who will learn oral history techniques as well as creative and performing arts skills. The students will act as story collectors, documenting the lives of people in their neighborhood.

They will begin their project using disposable cameras and techniques learned in class. Out of this research, the girls will select one woman whose life they will explore in more depth through detailed interviews. The girls will share their written portraits and will perform a short dance honoring the women who inspired them at a special program in March 2012 to celebrate Woman’s Day at the SHL Elementary School.

Second Phase

In a second phase of the project, Alight will create a dance performance that brings to life stories of remarkable Greenbelt women from the 1930s to the present. “We are particularly interested in women who have raised a family and/or run a business/organization while living in a GHI unit,” stated Foster.

On four successive Sundays in June and July 2012, “Hometown Heroes” will be choreographed both inside and outside the historic Greenbelt Museum at 10-B Crescent Road. The



PHOTO COURTESY OF DORRIE BATES

Receiving their grant awards from the Greenbelt Community Foundation are Justine Desmarais and Lisa Meyers representing the Greenbelt Nursery School; Fischer and Dorrie Bates, Greenbelt Community Foundation Advisory Board; and Michelle Cardoso representing Alight Dance Theater.

audience will follow the dancers around the grounds and through the house. “The idea is to welcome the audience into the home through the dance as though you were being invited into the home of the woman of the house,” Foster stated. Alight will also make a short film of the dance which will be posted free on the internet.

“We are really excited about creating this dance for such a beautiful and intimate space,” related Foster. “Most of all, we hope to create a work which honors the stories of the diverse women who have made Greenbelt such a great place to live,” she added.

Foster plans to be at an Information Day table at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival and at the Farmers Market on September 11 to connect with people who are willing to share their stories. Foster may also be contacted at angella@alightdancetheater.org or 301-821-1331 if anyone has a story of an extraordinary Greenbelt woman to share.

Greenbelt Nursery School

The second project funded by the Greenbelt Community Foundation enhances programs at the Greenbelt Nursery School by bringing an outside music educator to the school once a week to engage the students in singing

and playing instruments. The added enrichment is expected to increase the children’s cognitive development, music appreciation and enjoyment.

GNS expects to hire Penny Russell, a local Riverdale artist, who has taught fitness, drama, puppetry, dance and music for over 25 years. Russell will mix songs and instruments, traditional and new, from cultures around the world.

The Greenbelt Community Foundation has two grant cycles a year; grant awards range from \$500 to \$5,000 and are given to Greenbelt community groups, cooperatives and non-profit organizations. Applications are reviewed by a committee and then presented to the whole Advisory Board for final decisions. Both Alight and GNS received full funding for their projects. Matching funds will come from other sources.

The mission of the Greenbelt Community Foundation is to support worthwhile initiatives by local organizations benefiting the Greenbelt community. Check the Foundation’s website at www.greenbeltfoundation.net for information on the next grant cycle. Foundation board members may also be reached at info@greenbeltfoundation.net.

Labor Day Festival to Have New Hours

The Labor Day Festival will have new hours this year. The new times are:



Friday, Sept. 2
6 to 10 p.m. (booths and rides)
Main stage closes 11 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 3
9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. (booths and rides)
Main stage closes 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 4
Noon to 9:30 p.m. (booths and rides);
Main stage closes 10:30 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 5
Noon to 6 p.m.

For a printed guide to all of the Festival programs and activities, check out the special insert to the August 25 issue of this newspaper.

Tessa Osborne Embodied In the Family Scholarship

by Paula Clinedinst

I did not know Tessa Osborne, who was taken from this life before I had that chance. I know members of her family (one cannot grow up in Greenbelt and not know at least one member of the Osborne family) and I truly believe one would be hard-pressed to find another group that embodies “family” as this one does.

They have had their share of hardships – most families have. But it is the way they work through life’s battles together and somehow always seem to find love and laughter that says “family.” To the Osbornes, family and community matter most and, for that reason, the Tessa Osborne Scholarship was born several years ago.

Tessa was 18 years old when she died. As a young girl, Tessa played football for the Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club and, in fact, was the first girl in Prince George’s County to play football at the 125-pound level. She also played basketball and softball and was a cheerleader for the Club. She played baseball in the Little League and volunteered at the library and nursing home.

In 1994 Tessa was a runner-up in the Junior Miss Greenbelt Pageant. Tessa died in 2001, leaving her mother, a brother, grandparents and several aunts, uncles and cousins, many of whom still live in Greenbelt. Through them, her spirit lives on not only in the pictures on the walls but also in the memorial scholarship the family has created.

Since 2005 the Osborne family has collected donations to create

a \$500 scholarship for a Junior Miss Greenbelt Pageant contestant. Each Junior Miss contestant is given the opportunity to explain on paper what community means to her and why family is important. The winner is selected from this set of applications.

2010’s winner, Kathryn Breon, explained in her application that “family loves you no matter what.” This hit home with the Osbornes as they reviewed the applications. Past winners are: Victoria Kerdock, 2009; Allison Thompson and Sarah Larkin, 2008; Jodi Wildoner, 2007; and Allie Claytor, 2006.

In addition to the scholarship given on Labor Day Weekend, St. Hugh’s CYO holds the Big “T” bingo game on the Sunday night of the Labor Day Festival in honor of Tessa. The event is well attended by the family and their many friends.

Shortly after the Big “T” game, the winner of the scholarship is announced on the Miss Greenbelt Pageant stage by Tessa’s cousins, Erin and Lisa Donn. A savings bond is purchased and sent to the recipient.

The Osborne family plans to provide the scholarship in Tessa’s memory for many years. In the years since the scholarship’s existence, 3 Brothers, the original Ledo Pizza and Shattuck & Associates have made donations.

The scholarship is a way for the Osborne family to honor Tessa. It is also proof that community spirit and family values can and do survive.

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HURRICANE continued from page 1

Without power, area residents in large numbers sought out restaurants for Sunday breakfast. With only those in Greenway Center in Greenbelt East open, they became quickly thronged with customers standing in line to be seated.

A few business establishments such as Giant and Target had backup generators and were open on Sunday. Without power and much refrigerated food spoiling, Greenbelt Co-op was not able to reopen until Monday afternoon.

By Tuesday morning power had been restored to all sections of the city except Greenbelt Park of the National Park Service. According to U.S. Park Police, the park sustained a number of fallen trees and as of late Tuesday afternoon was still without power, thereby delaying efforts to clean up the storm damage. The park is temporarily closed until power is restored and fallen trees removed. The Park Police remain in service, however, as they patrol the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

Tree Fall

Greenbelt Public Works Director Ken Hall reported that there were six fallen trees in the city, a relatively small number for such a major event. He said that crews had been out cleaning branches and debris off roadways and that there would be much clean-up work to do. Because the Public Works crews also have to prepare this week for the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival, Hall expected crews would still be cleaning up debris into the following week.

The most serious damage occurred in the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) development. A large white oak fell against two end units at 20 Court Hillside causing damage to the homes and taking down a utility pole and wires. Another large oak tree fell against homes in 46 Court Ridge with damage to two units. Giant cranes were required to remove the trees.

Near 5 Court Ridge, a tree fell onto a parked vehicle, causing some damage to the vehicle. Other trees were reported down or leaning against buildings at Crescent and Westway, Research and Ridge and near Ridge and Southway within GHI.

The owners of one of the residences adjacent to the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center reports that several trees on their property were blown over by the hurricane with two leaning against the home; damage to the home as yet unknown. A large portion of a Bradford pear tree was down in the yard of a Green Spring home on Hanover Parkway.

Other Tidbits

Eileen Farnham traveled to and from Fredericksburg, Va., on



PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

An oak tree rests across homes in 46 Court Ridge.

Sunday. She observed convoys of utility vehicles and power equipment headed north on I-95. One group of about 30 vehicles was from Louisiana. She also saw trucks carrying utility poles.

Hopefully, they will get this job finished before another storm closer to their home requires attention.

A Greenbelt resident named Irene was treated badly by her namesake hurricane. Irene Pavlish celebrated her 84th birthday at her house in the dark. She was to have a big family party on Sunday in celebration. Left in the dark by Hurricane Irene, Pavlish of 12 Court Ridge had a candlelight birthday dinner with her son and family as other children decided not to drive the long distances in the hurricane aftermath. Dinner included lasagna cooked at her son's home, peach pie she had

made and a large birthday cake given to her. Pavlish is better known to many old-time Greenbelters as Irene Fulton, a long time checkout clerk at the Co-op.

Lynn Eppard who prepares the News Review each week for publishing, a Montgomery County resident with no power, came to our office on Tuesday night to work at our computers.

Agnes Conaty, who also lives where power has not been restored, hand-delivered her weekly squirrel cartoon.

School Closings

All Prince George's County Public Schools were closed on Monday. Magnolia and Glen Arden Woods Elementary Schools were still closed on Tuesday for lack of power but only Glen Arden Woods remained closed on Wednesday.



PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

Above, a branch pile at 46 Court Ridge after tree removal, showing the size of the tree that was damaged.



A downed tree limb in 5 court of Ridge Road. This section of tree came down at approximately 1 a.m. Sunday morning during the high winds. GHI's crew responded Sunday about 9 a.m. to remove limbs around two cars using chainsaws. One vehicle was severely damaged.



PHOTOS BY JEANNETTE HOLMAN



PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

Part of a forked tree that fell at 20 Hillside Road in Old Greenbelt at 4:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, August 28 from Hurricane Irene.

Residents of 20-Court Hillside Take Action

by Marat Moore

Around 10 p.m. Sunday night, residents of most GHI courts clustered at the intersection of Hillside and Research Roads celebrated the sudden surge of electric lights. But not all. The three rows of townhomes at 20 Court Hillside remained largely dark.

The court had suffered a double blow when a white oak split and fell in two directions – one large section of the tree downed power lines on Hillside between Research and Laurel Hill and yanked the electrical service box from the end of one of the unit rows. The electrical pole located between two rows tilted precariously. The other section of the tree crashed into an upstairs unit, with one large limb impaling the attic.

On Sunday, a tree crew contracted by Pepco worked through the day to remove huge limbs tangled in live wires. Neighbors gathered to watch the delicate and dangerous operation. Utility crews followed, restoring power to most of the area courts. The next morning, a tree crew hired by GHI began work and by af-

ternoon had lifted the huge tree limbs from the 20 Court town-home roof.

But the court was still in the dark. On Monday night, Emily Ascheri and Eddie Alvarez grilled their dinner and said they were thankful that their unit hadn't been struck.

By Tuesday morning, residents decided to take action and contacted WJLA-TV's "7 On Your Side" to ask for coverage of their power problem. The strategy worked – soon after the Channel 7 reporter called Pepco, the utility sent several trucks to restore power and fix the leaning power pole. At 5 p.m. Tuesday, Channel 7 ran a live broadcast with interviews from three residents.

At press time, one row at 20 Court still lacked power because of the disabled electrical service box which GHI will repair. That may happen this weekend.

Then Pepco must restore service lines and replace damaged meters. If Pepco is delayed GHI may provide a generator to restore power to the row.



PHOTO BY MARAT MOORE

A large tree fell in 20 Court Hillside, poking through the roof and damaging the electrical supply. Monday Asplundh arrived to remove the tree with the assistance of a crane from Digging and Rigging.

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The Day the Circus Came to Town

by Paula Clinedinst

It was just before 7 p.m. on Friday, August 19 and the Will Call Desk at the Community Center was busy for the first of three sold-out shows of “Inspiration: a circus exploration of the wonders that inspire America’s children.” After three weeks of preparation, roughly 45 participants in Greg May’s Circus Camp were ready to put on the greatest show in Greenbelt. Many of the circus participants, ages 8 to 15, have come to Circus Camp since its beginning and were ready to take things to the next level.

The city is familiar with May – years ago he became part of the Labor Day Festival as a clown walking the festival grounds on stilts and in recent years he has been a featured performer at the Fall Fest at Schrom Hills Park. This year May, who introduced Circus Camp to Greenbelt in 2007, approached the Recreation Department about the idea of actually putting on a circus with the camp participants. With the go-ahead and strong support from the Recreation Department staff, the show began to take shape.

Let the Show Begin

GIVES President Jean Cook watched some of the rehearsals while at the Community Center and was impressed. Says Cook, “I loved the juxtaposition of walkers and unicycles” (the unicyclists practiced their skill using walkers). Complete with unicyclists, stilt-walkers, jugglers and aerialists, “Inspiration” was a fun-packed show. Two acts, each made up of eight performances, included trapeze stunts, rolling globes, acrobatics on a mini-trampoline and tightrope walkers.

Each performance had its own inspiration – the stars, nature, classical music, Hollywood and even duct tape were some of the inspirations. The New York City-inspired “Taxi Cab Gag” was especially entertaining, as was the Greek mythology-inspired “Partner Acrobatics,” where a young Zeus is told by his mother, “Zeus, stop playing with the mortals!” (From on high, young Zeus is manipulating dolls and the participants are on mats below, performing whatever acrobatics Zeus is making the dolls do.)

Children turning jump rope while balancing on an exercise ball, participants on unicycles shooting baskets into a hoop and villains facing off on a tightrope brought applause, laughter and



Circus finale, with instructors in the center rear (left to right) Greg May, Lauren Breunig, Betty May, Sheryl May and Rich Potter.

many “oohs” and “aahs” to the Community Center gym. A floor-to-ceiling, free-standing aerials rig provided for bar trapeze performances and the final act, “Fabric.” A perfect closing number, “Fabric” was inspired by Ninjas and its five aerialists did amazing acrobatics using sashes that hung from the top of the rig.

For All Ages

The audience was representative of all ages. Small children danced on their chairs and in the aisles. Parents held their breath at times, especially when one of their children was on the trapeze or being vaulted over by an acrobat jumping from a trampoline. Said Greenbelter Suze Marley, “I’m in awe – this was amazing, wonderful and exciting.” Husband Jim Marley said, “I’m inspired by Greg May!”

Mayor Judith Davis said, “This was just fantastic and there was so much enthusiasm even when they made a mistake.” Doug Mangum echoed this thought in saying that his favorite part of the show was that the kids had the confidence to do something most people can’t do “and they were having fun even when they messed up.”

Beginnings of Show

At the beginning of the summer, the Circus Camp participants were given the opportunity to write down what inspired them. Leading up to the end-of-summer performance, invitations were sent to the White House, the Maryland General Assembly and various news media stations. (While

there was no response from the President, WTOP and MSNBC both promoted the event and videos can be found on their websites.)

The three weeks leading up to the show began with an exploration phase where all the kids – many return year after year – got to try everything; May and his coaching team determined which participants would perform best in each area. Then the kids trained intensely in their individual skill areas, and at the beginning of the third week, the group began rehearsing the actual show.

Ten-year-old Julia Sharapi said, “It rocked!” Participants, she said, were nervous and happy at the same time, “all nervous and OMG inside.”

When asked about performing three shows in two days, Tim Pulik, 11, said, “Bring it!” This was Pulik’s second year at Circus Camp. His favorite part was the actual performance but he enjoyed reading his Harry Potter book backstage when not performing. Eleven-year-old Ashley Adams loved performing and thought that Circus Camp was a mixture of seeing old friends and making new ones.

Inspiration

The show was dedicated to Greenbelter Rafael Martins, a Circus Camp participant who died two years ago at the age of nine. Martins loved being a part of the camp, despite a chronic illness and a prosthetic on his leg. Martins’ family attended the show and were pleased that, in addition to the show’s title being dedicated to young Rafael, one particular juggling act was noted in the program as “inspired by Rafael Martins.” Martins’ sister Bella performed in the youth circus as a unicyclist and a cab rider in “Taxi Cab Gag.”

This reporter was inspired by the way the participants worked with and helped each other. If someone dropped a juggling stick, someone else picked it up. Someone needed help getting on or off a unicycle? Someone else held the cycle still. May’s energy, too, was inspiring. Not enough for me to get up on a trapeze while juggling hula hoops but this reporter certainly is looking forward to next year’s show.



Human pyramid: On top Sebi Fernandez-Napp, in the middle Ana Fernandez-Napp (left) and Stephanie Whiteman, on the bottom left to right Sarah Rodeffer, Charlie Fahey, Joe Capotosto and Makayla Bowen-Longino.



Sarah Rodeffer doing a dive roll over six people, watched by instructor Sheryl May.



Unicyclists pivot around Greg May.



The performers’ grand entrance is accompanied by taped music and miming musicians.

PHOTOS BY JON GARDNER